

BISHOP'S STORTFORD 2, KINGS LANGLEY 0

A goal in each half enabled the Blues to register their first league win of the campaign and so move them up the table.

It was a deserved victory over their opponents who they were meeting for the first time in a league fixture.



Stortford included Tyrique Hyde-Skerritt on loan from Dagenham & Redbridge whilst Sam Hatton was making his home debut. Also striker Jason Williams returned to the starting line-up after injury.

It was a lively start with Blues keeper Tyler McCarthy in early action saving well when Kings marksman Mitchell Weiss fired a low 20 yard drive approaching the edge of the box in the third minute and a split second later when the ball rebounded off another Kings forward the stopper reacted quickly to prevent it threatening his goal. Five minutes later McCarthy dived full length to his right to save a 25 yard effort from Weiss.



Then, at the other end soon afterwards, Sam Hatton was close with a header following a Mark Hughes' cross. Dipo Akinyemi sent a low shot across the face of the visitors' goal and an excellent tackle by Langley's Sam Tring stopped

Tyrique Hyde-Skerritt has the loan player bore down on goal.

The Blues first goal arrived in the 26th minute when Darren Foxley ran down the middle after collecting Dipo Akinyemi's perfect through pass and beat keeper Ross Hampton with a low drive. It was Stortford's first goal in more than five hours of football.

The hosts finished the half well with most of the action in the visitors' half and a rising shot from Mark Hughes at the edge of the box was just inches over the bar.



Kings exerted early pressure on the restart and McCarthy produced a fine diving save to deny Ollie Cox from a free-kick in the 51st minute. Then McCarthy's outstretched leg at the near post prevented Weiss from netting after a short corner routine.



However, in increasingly wet conditions, it was Stortford though who netted the next goal. Winning a corner on the right in the 64th minute Hatton's flag kick was met by a header on the far side by Joe Robinson that fell into the six yard box. Amongst a crowd of players it was Jason Williams who forced the ball into the net from close range.

With the visitors having to push forward to try to get something from the match the Blues had

opportunities to extend their lead in the rain. Following an incisive attack on the break in the 69th minute in which Akinyemi and Foxley were involved Williams had three shots saved by Hampton and seconds later Ollie Cox cleared off the goal-line from Williams.



The visitors Steve Ward grazed the bar in the 73rd minute but soon afterwards Williams planted his header over the target and in the 81st minute Akinyemi failed to break his goal-scoring duck when Hampton foiled him at the near post.

Tyler McCarthy had to produce another good save in the closing minutes when he held on to

skipper Emmanuel Folarin's near post header following an Ollie Cox corner but in the end the Blues were good value for their victory by a two goal margin.

There were cautions in the match for Williams, Hyde-Skerritt and Jordan Westcott.

STORTFORD: Tyler McCarthy; George Casey; Aaron Tumwa; Mark Hughes; Marvel Ekpiteta; Joe Robinson; Tyrique Hyde-Skerritt (Calvin Ekpiteta 76); Sam Hatton (Jordan Westcott 76); Dipo Akinyemi (Christian Owusu 84); Jason Williams; Darren Foxley.

Unused substitutes: Ryan Richefond and Alex Rogers.

KINGS LANGLEY: Ross Hampton; Emmanuel Folarin; Sam Tring (Chris Gosling 67); Callum Adebisi; Macauley Keating; Josh Coldicott-Stevens; Steve Ward; Ollie Cox; Mitchell Weiss; Louis Bircham (Jack Waldren 62); Kieran Turner (Ceykan Karagozlu 81)

Unused substitutes: Lee Stobbs and Charlie Hasler

Referee: Rick Bloy

Attendance: 238

